

Dr. Reichenow, who, as stated above, has already identified *M. metabates* Heugl. with *M. polyzonus* (Rüppell), has shown that, most unfortunately, Rüppell's name for this species cannot be maintained, being preoccupied by *Nisus polyzonus* Less.\* This is quite true, although Dr. Reichenow is mistaken in regard to Lesson's name belonging to the southern *Melierax canorus* (Rislach). *Nisus polyzonus* Less., the type of which has been figured by Des Murs†, was established on a specimen brought from the Cape by Delalande, and I think that it has been rightly identified by Dr. Sharpe with *Astur* (or *Scelopizias*) *tachiro*‡. Dr. Reichenow mentions *Nisus polyzonus* Less. also among the synonyms of *Astur tachiro*, shewing that his previous statement was made by mistake.

In conclusion, the name *Melierax metabates* of Heuglin (1861), which at that time had no right to stand, the bird to which the name was given not being different from *Falco* (*Nisus*) *polyzonus* Rüpp. (1835), ought, according to Dr. Reichenow, to be restored to use on account of Rüppell's name being preoccupied by *Nisus polyzonus* Less. (1831). I feel that this change is unfortunate, but I cannot see the way to avoid it §.

XX.—*On the Birds collected during a recent Expedition through Somali-Land and Abyssinia to Lake Tsana.* By W. R. OGILVIE-GRANT, F.Z.S. *With Field-Notes by the Collector, Mr. E. DEGEN.*

(Plates V. & VI.)

DURING recent years so many naturalists have traversed the

\* *Traité d'Orn.* p. 58 (1831).

† *Iconogr. Orn.* pl. 61.

‡ *Cat. B. i.* p. 99.

§ [With due respect to our much-esteemed correspondent, we do not quite understand why Rüppell's name *polyzonus* should not be retained for the *Melierax*, as Lesson's name does not refer to the same genus, and is, moreover, merely a useless synonym of *Astur tachiro* Daud.—EDD.]

countries lying between Zaila on the Somali-Land coast and Adis Ababa, the capital of Abyssinia, that this portion of Mr. Degen's route calls for no special remark.

We may likewise pass over his trip from the capital to Lake Zwai, over ground visited in 1899 by Mr. J. J. Harrison and a year later by Mr. A. E. Pease (*cf.* 'Ibis,' 1901, pp. 278 & 607).

Although a number of valuable bird-skins were procured while passing through these lands, no species was met with of which examples had not previously been obtained by Lord Lovat or by the travellers already mentioned.

As might be expected, it was during his journey to the north, from Adis Ababa to Lake Tsana, that Mr. Degen came across the most interesting forms of bird-life. This portion of his route lay across extremely difficult country, where the high plateaux were intersected by the mighty gorges of the Blue Nile and its tributaries. From Mr. Degen's somewhat copious journal I have endeavoured to make the following *précis*, which will give some idea of the great difficulties encountered and successfully overcome.

Having engaged men for the trip and purchased the requisite number of mules, Mr. Degen and his caravan left the British Agency at Adis Ababa on the 14th of April, 1902. On the third day's march a sudden turn in the road brought the party to the edge of the Gombitchu plateau, where it terminates abruptly in a precipice about 5,000 feet high overhanging the Mogre River. The descent was at last safely accomplished, but the mules required very careful handling and manœuvring, and even then, in descending the cliffs to the first ridge, several animals became wedged between boulders of basalt and had to be unloaded. Many parts of the descent entailed a series of jumps from one great rocky step to another, with a drop of four or five feet between them, recalling the structure of the Pyramids.

Having crossed the Mogre River and regained the high plateau opposite, the same difficulties were again encountered in making the descent to the Blue Nile, or Abbai as it is locally called, especially in traversing the deep ravine leading to the

lowest terrace, through which the river has in the course of ages cut its way. This sheer cliff, probably of Silurian origin, confines the river on either side with scarcely a break in its nearly perpendicular walls : and the descent has to be made over slippery, polished boulders, worn smooth by the constant traffic of hoofs. After crossing the Blue Nile great difficulties were again encountered in surmounting the first terrace. Half the mules had to be unloaded and the baggage carried up through a funnel-like passage in the rock by natural steps five or six feet in height, and some of the frightened animals had even to be lifted up bodily by the men. An ascent of about 5,000 feet brought the weary members of the caravan at last to their camping-ground overlooking the junction of the River Muga with the Blue Nile. The panoramic view from this camp is described by Mr. Degen as being the most magnificent that it has ever been his lot to behold, and an ample reward for one of the hardest and most anxious days experienced during the expedition.

Another morning of stiff climbing and the high northern plateau was once more reached. After a detour made to avoid the deep channel of the Betchet River, the route passed for days over grassy plains and prairie country, no river of any size or importance being met with till the Godeb, Tamtcha, and Birr Rivers were successively reached and forded. The gigantic Amedamid mountains now lay immediately in front, stretching across the valley like an impassable barrier and rising for 7,000 feet above the level of the plateau, with a real altitude of 16,000 feet. The steep track crosses this chain at an elevation of 13,000 feet and thence gradually descends across minor ranges and streams to that great inland sea, Lake Tsana, which was reached on the 10th of May, 1902.

Three weeks were spent at the south end of the lake, the camp being first fixed on the Zigi peninsula and thence moved to Bahar-Dhar, where the Blue Nile leaves the lake.

On the 6th of June, the rainy season having now set in in earnest, the journey south was commenced, with a series of forced marches. A more westerly course was followed to

Bure, the track subsequently intersecting the northern route at Godeb, and then turning south through Liben and Kutai. The crossing of the Blue Nile at Zamea, though supposed to be less dangerous than that at Dedgen, proved equally difficult and perilous, but all the animals and their loads eventually got safely across. The journey over the hilly ground to Adis Alam occupied many days, and it was not until the 30th of June, 1902, that the capital was once more reached.

One of the primary objects of Mr. Degen's expedition was to obtain examples of the fresh-water fishes of Abyssinia, especially of Lake Tsana, and no opportunity was lost of adding to the series. A preliminary report on the collection, which contains many new and interesting fishes, has been published by Mr. G. A. Boulenger, F.R.S. Under the circumstances it is surprising that Mr. Degen should have been able single-handed to collect and prepare so many skins of mammals and birds. The series of the latter includes examples of two new species, a Barbet (*Melanobucco tsanæ*) and a Lark (*Mirafra degeni*), as well as of two specially rare and interesting Owls, one of which (*Asio abyssinicus*) is new to the British Museum.

As examples of most of the species represented in the present collection were procured either by Lord Lovat or by Mr. A. E. Pease during their recent expeditions to Abyssinia, reference is made in most instances to the articles on their collections already published in 'The Ibis.' To save repetition the titles of these papers have been abbreviated as follows:—

Mr. Grant's article on the birds collected during the expedition of Mr. Weld-Blundell and Lord Lovat (1898-9) (Ibis, 1900, pp. 115-178 and pp. 304-337) is quoted as "Grant."

Messrs. Grant and Reid's article on the birds collected on Mr. Pease's expedition (1900-1) (Ibis, 1901, pp. 607-699) is quoted as "Grant & Reid."

The scientific names used in the above-mentioned articles are the same as those employed in the present paper, unless otherwise stated.

*Itinerary of the Expedition (1901-2).*

Dec.	13.	Zaila,	Somali-Land.	Mar.	23	} Adis Ababa, 8,500 ft.
..	19.	Warabod, 500 ft.,	..	to		
..	19.	Manda, 1,000 ft.,	..	April 14.		
..	20.	Hensa, 2,000 ft.,	..	Mar. 30.	Akaki R.	
..	23.	Hirabon, 2,500 ft.,	..	April 14.	Sulultra, 9,000 ft.,	Shoa.
..	23.	Gale Dabal, 3,000 ft.,	..	..	15. Gombitchu, 8,000 ft.,	..
..	26.	Dabas, 3,500 ft.,	..	..	17. Gomar, Mogre R., 6,000 ft.,	..
..	27.	Gulda,	..	..	18. Yai-yai, 7,000 ft.,	..
..	30.	Balawa, 8,000 ft.,	Upper Galla-Land.	..	22. Dedgen, 4,000 ft.,	Damot, Godjam.
..	31.	Dagu Delali, 9,850 ft.,	..	..	22. Yensitcha, 8,000 ft.,	..
Jan.	1.	Harrar, 6,200 ft.,	..	..	23. Dubra Marcos (Moncarar),	..
..	1.	Harramaier, 8,700 ft.,	..	..	25. Yeddib, Godeb R.,	Damot, ..
..	16.	Bijo, 9,000 ft.,	..	..	26. Dembretcha,	..
..	18.	Mirti,	..	May	3. Din, 6,000 ft.,	..
..	19.	Hoorsa, 7,000 ft.,	..	..	6. Ibad, Amedamids, 12,000 ft.,	..
..	20.	Errer, 6,000 ft.,	..	..	Miessa, Godjam.	..
..	21.	Mamasa, 5,000 ft.,	Danakil.	..	6. Addet, Miessa, Godjam.	..
..	24.	Daira Aila,	..	..	9. Goubre, ..	..
..	26.	Doba,	..	..	10. Unfras R.,	Lake Tsana.
..	27.	Oda,	..	..	12. Zegi, Lake Tsana.	..
..	28.	Furrasso, Mulu R.,	..	June	5. Bahar-Dhar, Lake Tsana.	..
..	30.	Billen, 3,500 ft.,	Hawash R., Danakil.	..	8. Kude, Agaumeder, Godjam.	..
Feb.	1.	Amibarra, Danakil.		..	10. Bure, 11,000 ft.,	Agaumeder.
..	5.	Seddikulka,	..	..	18. Zamea, 8,000 ft.,	Liben.
..	6.	Owaramulka, 4,500 ft.,	Kassim R., Danakil.	..	20. Hiressa, 8,000 ft.,	..
..	8.	Tadejemulka, Danakil.		..	21. Ahouillet, 9,000 ft.,	Kutai.
..	10.	Manniballa, Shoa.		..	23. Katchessa, 9,500 ft.,	..
..	11.	Balchi, 7,000 ft.		..	24. Batadino, 8,000 ft.,	..
..	13.	Jeffi Dunsu, 8,000 ft.		..	25. Dodgit, 9,500 ft.,	Mecha.
..	14.	Hambissa.		..	27. Worrumbutchi, 10,000 ft.,	Mecha.
..	25.	Duhome, Loya R.,	Aroussi.	..	28. Adis Alam, 10,500 ft.,	..
..	28.	Ashoufi, Mt. Sequala,	..	..	29. Manna Gasha, 10,000 ft.,	Shoa.
Mar.	2.	Lake Ailan,	..	July	4. Adis Ababa, 8,500 ft.	
..	3.	Buggali, Maki R.,	..	..	9. Jeffi Dunsu, 8,000 ft.,	Kassim R., Shoa.
..	5.	Hara, Lake Zwai, 4,000 ft.,	Aroussi.	..	13. Gadaburka, 7,000 ft.,	Shoa.
..	8.	Serba, Lake Zwai, Aroussi.		..	14. Manniballa, Shoa.	
..	12.	Quala, 4,500 ft.,	Guerague.	..	16. Choba,	..
..	14.	Bogra, Upper Hawash R., 5,000 ft.,	Guerague.	..	17. Tadejemulka, Danakil.	
..	15.	Dedota, 5,500 ft.,	Upper Hawash R., Guerague.	..	21. Lago Arbo,	..
..	18.	Akaki R.,	Guerague.	..	22. Mt. Asebot, 6,000 ft.,	Danakil.
				..	24. Miessa, Danakil.	
				..	25. Mulu River, Danakil.	
				..	26. Ala-Oola,	..
				..	31. Lalliballa, 3,500 ft.,	Upper Galla.
				Aug.	5. Uarof, 2,500 ft.,	..
				..	7. Jibouti.	..

*CORVUS SCAPULATUS.* (Grant & Reid, p. 610.)

*a.* ♀ ad. Manniballa, 10th February. No. 196.

*CORVULTUR CRASSIROSTRIS.* (Grant, p. 120.)

*a.* ad. Southern Abyssinia. No data.

*LAMPROCOLIUS CHALYBEUS.* (Grant & Reid, p. 611.)

*a, b.* ♂. Harrar, 14th January. Nos. 74, 75.

*CINNAMOPTERUS TENUIROSTRIS.*

*Cinnamopterus tenuirostris* (Rüpp.); Sharpe, P. Z. S. 1900, p. 602.

The Slender-billed Red-winged Starling is a rare and local species. It was not met with by the Blundell-Lovat, Pease, or Harrison expeditions to Southern Abyssinia.

Dr. Sharpe (*op. cit.*) has already pointed out that the plumage of the female is different to that of the male, the feathers of the head and neck being spotted at the tips with grey and the rest of the contour-feathers margined with the same colour.

*a.* ♀. Ahouillet, 22nd June. No. 379.

*b, c.* ♂ ♀. Dembretcha, 30th April. Nos. 315, 316.

*SPREO SUPERBUS.* (Grant & Reid, p. 612.)

*a.* ♂. Gale Dabal, 25th December. No. 27.

*COSMOPSARUS REGIUS.* (Grant & Reid, p. 612.)

*a.* ♂. Gale Dabal, 25th December. No. 26.

*b, c.* ♂. Mirti, 18th January. Nos. 120, 121.

*DILOPHUS CARUNCULATUS.* (Grant, p. 121.)

*a, b.* ♂ ♀. Daira Aila, 24th January. Nos. 132, 133.

*c.* ♀. Ala-Oola, 25th July. No. 443.

*BUPHAGA ERYTHORHYNCHA.* (Grant & Reid, p. 612.)

*a.* ♀. Harramaier, 16th January. No. 83.

[Iris blood-red, pupil dark blue, naked ring bright vivid yellow; bill carmine-red; feet reddish brown.—E. D.]

*BUCHANGA ASSIMILIS.* (Grant & Reid, p. 613.)

*a.* ♂. Bogra, 14th March. No. 262.

ORIOIUS LARVATUS. (Grant & Reid, p. 613.)

*a-c.* ♂ ♀. Lake Zwai, 6th-7th March. Nos. 225, 231, 232.

*d.* ♂. Bogra, 14th March. No. 259.

*e, f.* ♀ imm. Dedota, 15th-17th March. Nos. 264, 276.

ORIOIUS MONACHUS.

*Oriolus monachus*, Grant, *Ibis*, 1900, p. 566, figs. 1 & 2.

*Oriolus meneliki*, Blundell & Lovat; Grant, *Ibis*, 1900, p. 122, pl. ii. & p. 566, figs. 1 & 2.

The six birds collected by Mr. Degen shew that the black band across the middle of the outer tail-feathers is a variable character not dependent on age or locality.

Two adults (*a* and *b*) from the Mogre River have a more or less extensive patch of yellowish green on the basal half of the outer tail-feathers, terminated by a dusky border or band.

Another adult specimen (*c*) from the same locality has the band across the basal part blackish.

Specimen *e* has the band wider and blacker.

In specimen *f* the band is widest, about 0.5 inch.

It will thus be seen that the specimens mentioned above agree with the other specimens of *O. monachus* in the British Museum Collection (*cf.* *Ibis*, 1900, p. 565, figs. 1 & 2) and differ from the examples in the Turin Museum, some of which have a heavy black band across the outer tail-feathers about an inch and a half wide.

Specimen *d.* An immature female from the Mogre River has only a patch of yellowish green on the basal part of the outer web of the 2nd, 3rd, and 4th pairs of tail-feathers and shews no trace of a black band.

*a-d.* ♂ ♀ ad. et ♀ juv. Mogre River, 17th April. Nos. 297, 300, 301.

*e.* ♂. Katchessa, 23rd June. No. 381.

*f.* ♂. Zamea, 18th June. No. 364.

VIDUA PRINCIPALIS. (Grant & Reid, p. 613.)

*a, b.* ♀. Daira Aila, 25th January. Nos. 145, 146.

STEGANURA PARADISEA. (Grant, p. 123.)

A pair in full breeding-plumage.

a, b. ♂ ♀. Tadejemulka, 8th February. Nos. 193, 194.

PENTHETRIA LATICAUDA. (Grant, p. 123.)

Both males are in winter plumage.

a, b. ♂ ♀. Harrar, 1st-3rd January. Nos. 43, 50.

c. ♂. Dedgen, 22nd April. No. 306.

PENTHETRIOPSIS MACROCERCA. (Grant, p. 124.)

a-f. ♂ et ♂ imm. Jeffi Dunsu, 11th July: Nos. 407, 411-415.

UROBRACHYA TRAVERSI. (Grant & Reid, p. 614.)

Only flocks of males were met with in the month of June, and the same remark applies to the two species previously mentioned, viz. *Penthetria laticauda* and *Penthetriopsis macrocerca*.

a, b. ♂. Mamma Gasha, W. of Adis Ababa, 30th June. Nos. 404, 405.

PYROMELANA FRANCISCANA. (Grant & Reid, p. 615.)

Three of the specimens received have partly attained the black breast, the other three are in full breeding-dress. The species was not met with in February during the northward journey, but coming southwards in July flocks of males were very plentiful. No females were seen.

a-f. ♂. Gadaburka, 13th July. Nos. 417-422.

PYROMELANA XANTHOMELENA. (Grant & Reid, p. 615.)

The birds procured in April are in undress plumage, whereas those obtained in July are in full breeding-dress. The flocks met with contained only male birds.

a-c. ♂. Jeffi Dunsu, 10th-11th July. Nos. 408, 409, 416.

d, e. ♂. Gombitchu, 15th April. Nos. 294, 295.

PLOCEIPASSER MELANORHYNCHUS. (Grant & Reid, p. 616.)

a, b. ♂ ♀. Ala-Oola, 26th July. Nos. 446, 447.

c. ♂. Tadejemulka, 17th July. No. 431.

d. ♀. Serba, Lake Zwai, 8th March. No. 246.

QUELEA ETHIOFICA. (Grant & Reid, p. 616.)

a-h. ♂ ♀. Lalliballa, 31st July. Nos. 450-457.



SPERMESTES SCUTATA. (Grant & Reid, p. 616.)

*a-c.* ♂ ♀. Daira Aila, 24th January. Nos. 136-138.

LAGONOSTICTA BRUNNEICEPS. (Grant & Reid, p. 617.)

*a.* ♂. Harrar, 3rd January. No. 47.

PYTELIA AFFINIS. (Grant & Reid, p. 617.)

Two fine adult males.

*a.* ♂. Daira Aila, 25th January. No. 144.

*b.* ♂. Owaramulka, 6th February. No. 184.

ESTRILDA MINOR. (Grant & Reid, p. 619.)

*a, b.* ♂ ♀. Zegi, Lake Tsana, 19th May. Nos. 336, 337.

[Very common in the neighbourhood of towns, where it seems to represent the Common Sparrow.—E. D.]

ESTRILDA PHŒNICOTIS. (Grant & Reid, p. 619.)

*a.* ♂. Harrar, 6th January. No. 56.

*b.* ♂. Manniballa, 14th July. No. 426.

*c, d.* ♂ ♀. Dedota, 15th & 17th March. Nos. 267, 275.

GRANATINA IANTHINOGASTER. (Grant & Reid, p. 620.)

*a, b.* ♂ ♀. Mirti, 18th January. Nos. 125, 126.

*c.* ♀. Oda, 29th January. No. 155.

SPORÆGINTHUS OCHROGASTER.

*Sporæginthus margaritæ* Blundell & Lovatt; Grant, p. 130, pl. iii. fig. 1.

*Sporæginthus ochrogaster* Salvad.; Grant, p. 304, footnote.

A single male of this rare Weaver-Finch was shot out of a flock of *Estrilda minor*.

*a.* ♂. Zegi, Lake Tsana, 19th May. No. 335.

ANAPLECTES MELANOTIS. (Grant & Reid, p. 620.)

*a.* ♂. Mirti, 18th January. No. 128.

*b, c.* ♂ ♀. Hoorsa, 19th January. Nos. 110, 111.

HETERHYPHANTES BAGLAFECHT. (Grant & Reid, p. 621.)

An interesting series of specimens shewing the various stages of plumage between the winter and the breeding dress.

*a, b.* ♂ ♀. Harrar, 3rd & 6th January. Nos. 52, 59.

*c.* ♂. Harramaier, 16th January. No. 82.

*d, e.* ♂ ♀. Adis Ababa, 4th April. Nos. 288, 289.

- f. ♂. Dodgit, 25th June. No. 389.  
 g, h. ♂ ♀. Ahouillet, 21st–22nd June. Nos. 374–376.  
 i. ♂. Dedgen, 22nd April. No. 308.  
 k. ♀. Yensitcha, 23rd April. No. 310.

SITAGRA LUTEOLA.

*Sitagra luteola* (Licht.) ; Sharpe, Cat. B. Brit. Mus. xiii. p. 425 (1890).

This is the most southern locality in North-east Africa from which we have received specimens.

- a. ♀. Owaramulka, 6th February. Nos. 181, 182.  
 b. ♂. Lake Zwai, 7th March. No. 234.

HYPHANTORNIS GALBULA. (Grant & Reid, p. 621.)

- a. ♀. Bijo, 17th January. No. 98.  
 b. ♂. Daira Aila, 24th January. No. 141.  
 c, d. ♂ ♀. Seddimulka, 5th February. Nos. 179, 180.  
 e. ♀. Manniballa, 14th July. No. 424.  
 f. ♀. Quala, 12th March. No. 255.  
 g. ♀. Dedota, 15th March. No. 273.  
 h. ♀. Ahouillet, 22nd June. No. 377.

HYPHANTORNIS ABYSSINICUS. (Grant & Reid, p. 622.)

- a. ♀. Harrar, 6th January. No. 57.  
 b. ♂. Buggali, 4th March. No. 218.  
 c. ♀. Dedota, 17th March. No. 277.  
 d. ♂. Bahar-Dhar, 5th June. No. 358.  
 e. ♂. Zegi, Lake Tsana, 23rd May. No. 344.  
 [The males kept together in small flocks.—E. D.]

TEXTOR INTERMEDIUS. (Grant & Reid, p. 623.)

- a. ♂. Hoorsa, 19th January. No. 107.  
 b. ♂ imm. Furrasso, 28th January. No. 156.  
 c. ♂ imm. Mt. Afdab, Mulu River, 25th July.  
 No. 441.

DINEMELLIA DINEMELLI. (Grant & Reid, p. 623.)

- a, b. ♂ ♀. Mt. Afdab, Mulu River, 25th July. Nos. 439, 440.  
 c. ♂. Oda, 27th January. No. 151.

*CHRYSOMITRIS NIGRICEPS.* (Grant & Reid, p. 624.)

*a, b.* ♂ ♀. Manna Gasha, 29th June. Nos. 402, 403.

*c.* ♂. Adis Alam, 28th June. No. 399.

*CHRYSOMITRIS CITRINELLOIDES.* (Grant & Reid, p. 624.)

*a.* ♀. Hara, Lake Zwai, 7th March. No. 235.

*b.* ♀ [♂]. Ahouillet, 21st June. No. 372.

Specimen *b*, though marked ♀ by Mr. Degen, is doubtless an adult male.

*PETRONIA PYRGITA.* (Grant & Reid, p. 624.)

*a.* ♂. Gulda, 27th December. No. 31.

*b.* ♀. Ala-Oola, 26th July. No. 442.

*c.* ♀. Owaramulka, 7th February. No. 189.

*PETRONIA DENTATA.* (Grant, p. 134.)

*a.* ♀. Lago Arbo, 21st July. No. 432

*PASSER SWAINSONI.* (Grant & Reid, p. 625.)

*a.* ♂. Manniballa, 10th February. No. 197.

*b, c.* ♀. Adis Ababa, 4th April, 4th July. Nos. 296, 406.

*SERINUS STRIOLATUS.* (Grant, p. 135.)

*a.* ♂. Sulultra, 14th April. No. 292.

*b.* ♀. Worrumbutchi, 27th June. No. 397.

[Only met with on the bush-clad cliffs of the highest ground.—E. D.]

*SERINUS MACULICOLLIS.* (Grant & Reid, p. 625.)

*a.* ♂. Errer, 20th January. No. 113.

*b, c.* ♂ ♀. Ala-Oola, 26th July. Nos. 444, 445.

*SERINUS REICHENOWI.* (Grant & Reid, p. 626.)

*a.* ♂. Manniballa, 10th February. No. 199.

*b.* ♂. Serba, Lake Zwai, 8th March. No. 237.

*c.* ♀. Dedota, 15th March. No. 270.

*EMBERIZA POLIOPLEURA.* (Grant & Reid, p. 626.)

*a.* ♂. Owaramulka, 7th February. No. 188.

*FRINGILLARIA TAHAPISI.* (Grant & Reid, p. 626.)

*a.* ♀. Furrasso, 28th January. No. 158.

*b.* ♀. Dedota, 15th March. No. 272.



H. Goodchild del. et lith.

MIRAFRA DEGENI.

Mintern. Bros. imp.

FRINGILLARIA SEPTEMSTRIATA. (Grant, p. 137.)

a. ♂. Manniballa, 15th July. No. 425.

ALÆMON DESERTORUM. (Grant & Reid, p. 626.)

a-c. ♂ ♀. Zaila, 13th & 16th December. Nos. 3, 4, 12.

SPILOCORYDON HYPERMETRUS. (Grant & Reid, p. 627.)

a. ♂. Billen, 1st February. No. 171.

MIRAFRA DEGENI. (Plate V.)

*Mirafra degeni*, Grant, Bull. B. O. C. xiii. no. xciii. p. 28 (1902).

*Mirafra fischeri*, Salvad. (nec Reich.) Ann. Mus. Civ. Genov. xxvi. p. 267 (1888) [Shoa]; Grant & Reid, Ibis, 1901, p. 628 [Rora, S. Abyssinia].

*Adult male in summer plumage*.—Differs from *M. fischeri* Reich. in being somewhat larger and in having most of the feathers of the interscapulary region *black*, with rufous-brown margins; the inner secondaries similarly coloured; and the feathers of the chest and sides of the breast *brick-red*, fringed with pale buff. Iris chocolate-brown; bill grey; feet light brown. Total length ca. 6 inches, wing 3·3–3·4, tail 2·35, tarsus 1·05.

In *M. fischeri* the feathers of the interscapulary region are mostly reddish brown, with irregular, confluent, transverse black markings down the middle; the inner secondaries are mostly reddish brown, with a black and pale buff marginal band; and the chest-feathers cinnamon-buff.

The types were obtained by Mr. Degen at Hiressa, 8000 ft., between Adis Ababa and Lake Tsana, on 20th June.

A male procured by Mr. A. E. Pease at Kora, South Abyssinia, on 10th February, and at first identified as *M. fischeri*, belongs to this species, and may be described as follows:—

*Adult male in winter plumage*.—Resembles the male in summer plumage in having the feathers of the interscapulary region black; but the edgings of the feathers of the upper parts and wings are whitish, while the chest and under parts are coloured as in *M. fischeri*.

*a, b.* ♂. Hiressa, 20th June. Nos. 367, 371. [*Types of the species.*]

Iris chocolate-brown; feet light brown; bill grey.

[This Bush-Lark was met with on the highest plateaux at an elevation of about 8000 feet, in open spaces between the heavily wooded tracts.—E. D.]

*GALERIDA CRISTATA.* (Grant & Reid, p. 629.)

*a.* Ad. Warabod, 19th December. No. 13.

*AMMOMANES ASSABENSIS.*

*Ammomanes akeleyi*, Grant & Reid (nec Elliot), Ibis, 1901, p. 629 [Somadu].

*Ammomanes assabensis*, Salvad. Boll. Tor. xvii. no. 425 (1902).

Mr. Degen procured a pair of individuals of this dark form of Desert-Lark, which agree perfectly with the bird collected at Somadu by Mr. A. E. Pease and with the specimens from Assab recently forwarded to the Museum by Count Salvadori for identification, and subsequently described by him under the above name.

*a, b.* ♂ ♀. Hensa, 20th December. Nos. 16, 17.

*PYRRHULAUDA LEUCOTIS.* (Grant & Reid, p. 629.)

*a, b.* ♂. Uarof, 5th August. Nos. 461, 462.

*PYRRHULAUDA MELANAUCHEN.* (Grant & Reid, p. 630.)

*a-d.* ♂ ♀. Zaila, 14th December. Nos. 7-10.

*e-g.* ♂ ♀. Uarof, 5th August. Nos. 458-460.

*MOTACILLA ALBA.* (Grant & Reid, p. 630.)

*a.* ♂. Harramaier, 16th January. No. 81.

*MOTACILLA LONGICAUDATA.* (Grant & Reid, p. 630.)

*a.* ♀. Marmasa, 22nd January. No. 114.

*MOTACILLA MELANOPE.* (Grant, p. 140.)

*a.* ♀. Hoorsa, 19th January. No. 164.

*MOTACILLA BOREALIS.* (Grant, List of B. Somaliland and Abyssinia, App. to Pease, iii. p. 176, 1902.)

*a.* ♂ imm. Hara, Lake Zwai, 5th March. No. 221.

*b, c.* ♂ ♀ imm. Serba, Lake Zwai, 9th March. Nos. 250, 251.

*ANTHUS CAMPESTRIS.* (Grant & Reid, p. 632.)

*a.* ♂. Manda, 19th December. No. 14.

*ANTHUS PYRRHONOTUS.* (Grant & Reid, p. 632.)

*a, b.* ♂ ♀. Harrar, 3rd & 6th January. Nos. 53, 63.

*ANTHUS SORDIDUS.* (Grant & Reid, p. 632.)

*a.* ♀. Harrar, 6th January. No. 64.

*b, c.* ♂ ♀. Balchi, 11th February. Nos. 200, 201.

*ANTHUS RUFULUS.* (Grant & Reid, p. 633.)

*a, b.* ♂ ♀. Dagu Delali, 31st December. Nos. 39, 40.

*c.* ♂. Adis Ababa, 3rd April. No. 287.

*MACRONYX FLAVICOLLIS.* (Grant & Reid, p. 633.)

*a.* ♂. Dembretcha, 26th April. No. 314.

*NECTARINIA PULCHELLA.* (Grant & Reid, p. 634.)

*a.* ♂ imm. Seddimulka, 5th February. No. 176.

*b.* ♂ imm. Dedota, 15th March. No. 269.

*NECTARINIA TACAZZÆ.* (Grant, p. 143.)

*a, b.* ♂. Dodgit, 25th June. Nos. 386, 387.

*c.* ♂. Batadino, 24th June. No. 382.

*CINNYRIS HABESSINICUS.* (Grant & Reid, p. 634.)

*a, b.* ♂. Gale Dabal, 23rd & 25th December. Nos. 21, 25.

*c.* ♀. Owaramulka, 7th February. No. 187.

*CINNYRIS ALBIVENTRIS.* (Grant & Reid, p. 635.)

*a.* ♂ vix ad. Gale Dabal, 25th December. No. 23.

*CINNYRIS OSIRIS.* (Grant & Reid, p. 635.)

*a.* ♂. Dedota, 15th March. No. 268.

*CINNYRIS GUTTURALIS.* (Grant & Reid, p. 636.)

*a.* ♀. Balawa, 30th December. No. 34.

*b, c.* ♂ imm. et ♀. Bijo, 16th & 17th January. Nos. 89, 101.

*d-g.* ♂ ♀. Dedota, 15th-17th March. Nos. 263, 265, 266, 277.

*h.* ♀. Quala, 12th March. No. 256.

CINNYRIS AFFINIS. (Grant, p. 144.)

a. ♂. Adis Ababa, 4th July. No. 406.

b. ♂. Dodgit, 25th June. No. 388.

c, d. ♂ et [♂ imm.]. Dedgen, 22nd April. Nos. 303, 304.

e, f. ♂ et [♂ imm.]. Zegi, Lake Tsana. 19th May. Nos. 338, 339.

ZOSTEROPS ABYSSINICUS. (Grant, p. 144.)

a. ♂. Bijo, 17th January. No. 95.

[Iris yellowish brown; feet tinged with greenish; bill olive-green.—E. D.]

ZOSTEROPS TENELLA.

*Zosterops aurifrons* Heugl. (nec Temm.) J. f. O. 1862, p. 41 [Keren].

*Zosterops tenella*, Hartl. J. f. O. 1865, p. 11 [Keren].

This species is new to the British Museum Collection. It is a larger bird than *Z. senegalensis*, which it otherwise closely resembles. Wing 2·2 inches.

a. ♂. Unfras R., 10th May. No. 326.

ZOSTEROPS SCHOANA.

*Zosterops tenella*, Neumann (nec Hartl.), J. f. O. 1902, p. 133.

*Zosterops schoana*, Neumann, Orn. Monats. xi. no. 12, p. 185 (1903).

This form, if really distinct, is new to the Museum Collection. The species was partly based by Mr. Neumann on the specimens mentioned below. The female type from Abuje, Shoa, is in the Neumann Collection.

a. ♂. Dodgit, 26th June. No. 392. [*Type of male.*]

b. ♀. Ahouillet, 21st June. No. 372.

c. ♀. Addet, 8th May. No. 322.

PARUS LEUCOMELAS. (Grant & Reid, p. 636.)

a, b. ♂. Serba, Lake Zwai, 8th March. Nos. 242, 243.

PARUS LEUCONOTUS. (Grant & Reid, p. 637.)

a. ♂. Dodgit, 26th June. No. 393.



- b.* ♂. Batadino, 24th June. No. 383.  
*c.* ♂. Katchessa, 23rd June. No. 380.

TELEPHONUS MINUTUS. (Grant, p. 146.)

- a.* ♂. Bure, 12th June. No. 363.

TELEPHONUS BLANFORDI. (Grant & Reid, p. 637.)

- a.* ♀. Harramaier, 15th January. No. 77.  
*b.* ♂. Manniballa, 10th February. No. 198.  
*c, d.* ♂ ♀. Akaki River, 18th March. Nos. 278, 279.  
*e.* ♂. Quala, 12th March. No. 253.  
*f.* ♂. Hiressa, 20th June. No. 368.

DRYOSCOPIUS FUNEBRIS. (Grant & Reid, p. 637.)

- a, b.* ♂ ♀. Hirabon, 23rd December. Nos. 19, 20.  
*c.* ♀. Gale Dabal, 25th December. No. 22.  
*d.* ♂. Daira Aila, 25th January. No. 142.

DRYOSCOPIUS ÆTHIOPICUS. (Grant & Reid, p. 638.)

- a.* ♀. Harrar, 3rd January. No. 55.

DRYOSCOPIUS MALZACII. (Grant & Reid, p. 638.)

- a, b.* ♂ ♀. Hoorsa, 19th January. Nos. 105, 106.  
*c, d.* ♂ imm. Miessa, 24th July. Nos. 435, 436.  
*e.* ♂. Serba, Lake Zwai, 8th March. No. 244.  
*f, g.* ♂ ♀. Zegi, Lake Tsana, 23rd May. Nos. 345, 346.

LANIARIUS CRUENTUS. (Grant & Reid, p. 639.)

Mr. Neumann [Orn. Monats. xi. p. 182 (1903)] has recently separated specimens from North and South Somali-Land under the name of *Pelcinius cruentus hilgerti*. They are slightly darker and more brightly coloured, especially on the sides of the body, than birds from Erythrea, Bogos-Land, and Southern Abyssinia.

- a, b.* ♀. Mirti, 18th January. Nos. 122, 123.  
*c.* ♂. Tadejemulka, 17th July. No. 429.

LANIARIUS SULPHUREPECTUS. (Grant & Reid, p. 639.)

- a, b.* ♂ ♀. Hoorsa, 19th January. Nos. 108, 109.  
*c.* ♀. Quala, 13th March. No. 257.  
*d.* ♂. Serba, Lake Zwai, 8th March. No. 241.

## LANIARIUS BLANCHOTI. (Grant &amp; Reid, p. 639.)

The female has the dark cinnamon colour on the breast much more developed than in the male.

a. ♀. Billen, 1st February. No. 172.

b. ♂. Hara, Lake Zwai, 5th March. No. 223.

## LANIARIUS POLIOCEPHALUS subsp. CATHAROXANTHUS.

*Malacconotus catharoxanthus*, Neumann, J. f. O. 1899, p. 391.

The male from Hiressa seems to bear out the differences ascribed to this form by Mr. Neumann. It differs from the series of typical *L. poliocephalus* from West Africa in having the under parts uniform bright yellow, without any trace of the cinnamon wash on the breast *usually* characteristic of the latter.

a. ♂. Hiressa, 19th June. No. 366.

## NILAUS AFER. (Grant &amp; Reid, p. 641.)

a. ♂. Goubéré, 9th May. No. 325.

## NILAUS MINOR. (Grant &amp; Reid, p. 641.)

a. ♂. Oda, 27th January. No. 153.

## LANIUS DEALBATUS.

*Lanius dealbatus*, Defilippi; Grant, Nov. Zool. ix. p. 458, pl. xxvii. fig. 9 (1902).

A young bird with the plumage of the upper parts sandy grey.

a. ♀ vix ad. Buggali, 3rd March. No. 214.

Iris dark hazel; upper mandible horn-coloured, lower greyish; feet grey.

## LANIUS EXCUBITORIUS.

*Lanius excubitorius*, Grant & Reid, p. 641; Grant, Nov. Zool. ix. p. 469 (1902).

a. ♀. Billen, 31st January. No. 167.

b, c. ♂. Duhome, 25th February. Nos. 210, 211.

## LANIUS NUBICUS.

*Lanius nubicus*, Grant, p. 149; id. Nov. Zool. ix. p. 464 (1902).

a. ♂. Billen, 31st January. No. 162.

LANIUS HUMERALIS.

*Lanius humeralis*, Grant & Reid, p. 642; Grant, Nov. Zool. ix. p. 466 (1902).

a. ♀. Harrar, 14th January. No. 73.

b. ♂ juv. Zegi, Lake Tsana, 31st May. No. 357.

LANIUS ANTINORII.

*Lanius antinorii*, Grant & Reid, p. 642; Grant, Nov. Zool. ix. p. 463 (1902).

a. ♂. Dabas, 26th December. No. 28.

PRIONOPS CRISTATUS. (Grant & Reid, p. 642.)

a. ♀. Bijo, 17th January. No. 100.

[Iris and ring round eye bright yellow; feet scarlet; bill dark horn-coloured.—E. D.]

EUROCEPHALUS RUEPELLI. (Grant & Reid, p. 643.)

a. ♂. Billen, 31st January. No. 166.

b. ♂. Miessa, 24th July. No. 438.

BRADYORNIS CHOCOLATINUS. (Grant, p. 150.)

a. ♂. Ahouillet, 22nd June. No. 278.

[Iris cream-coloured; feet brown; bill grey.—E. D.]

BRADYORNIS PUMILUS. (Grant & Reid, p. 643.)

a. ♂. Quala, 12th March. No. 254.

PHYLLOSCOPUS RUFUS. (Grant & Reid, p. 644.)

a. ♂. Dedota, 15th March. No. 271.

SYLVIA CURRUCA. (Grant & Reid, p. 645.)

a. ♀. Seddimulka, 5th February. No. 177.

SYLVIELLA MICRURA. (Grant & Reid, p. 647.)

a. ♂. Bijo, 17th January. No. 97.

b. ♂. Mirti, 18th January. No. 129.

SYLVIELLA BRACHYURA. (Grant, p. 155.)

a. ♂. Hara, Lake Zwai, 5th March. No. 220.

EREMOMELA FLAVOCRISALIS. (Grant & Reid, p. 648.)

a. ♀. Bijo, 17th January. No. 94.

CALAMONASTES SIMPLEX. (Grant & Reid, p. 649.)

a. ♀. Daira Aila, 24th January. No. 140.

[Iris chocolate; feet light horn-coloured; bill black.—E. D.]

*BURNESIA GRACILIS.* (Grant & Reid, p. 650.)

*a-c.* ♂ ♀. Zaila, 14th–16th December. Nos. 5, 6, 11.

*CISTICOLA CISTICOLA.* (Grant & Reid, p. 650.)

*a.* ♂. Doba, 26th January. No. 150.

*CISTICOLA CINEREOLA.* (Grant & Reid, p. 651.)

*a.* ♂. Daira Aila, 24th January. No. 139.

*b.* ♂. Oda, 27th January. No. 154.

*CISTICOLA ROBUSTA.* (Grant & Reid, p. 652.)

A male bird in the present collection has the wing 3.0 inches long, and confirms the differences already pointed out.

*a.* ♂. Manna Gasha, 29th June. No. 401.

*CISTICOLA ERYTHROGENYS.* (Grant & Reid, p. 652.)

*a.* ♂. Sulultra, 14th April. No. 291.

*CISTICOLA CHINIANA.* (Grant & Reid, p. 654.)

*a.* ♂. Manniballa, 14th July. No. 423.

*b.* ♀. Serba, Lake Zwai, 8th March. No. 245.

*GEOCICHLA SIMENSIS.* (Grant & Reid, p. 654.)

*a.* ♂. Sulultra, 14th April. No. 293.

*b.* ♂. Batadino, 24th June. No. 385.

*TURDUS PELIOS.* (Grant & Reid, p. 655.)

The Ethiopian Thrush appears to be rather a rare bird. Lord Lovat and Mr. Pease each met with it once, the former on the Blue Nile and the latter at Lake Zwai.

*a.* ♀. Harrar, 3rd January. No. 54.

[Iris deep hazel-brown; bill and feet yellowish horn-coloured.—E. D.]

*MONTICOLA SAXATILIS.* (Grant & Reid, p. 655.)

*a.* [♂.] Quala, 12th March. No. 252.

[Seldom met with, and only on the high ground.—E. D.]

*MONTICOLA RUFOCINEREUS.* (Grant & Reid, p. 656.)

*a.* ♂. Balawa, 30th December. No. 32.

*b.* ♀. Harrar, 1st January. No. 45.

*c.* ♂. Bogra, 14th March. No. 260.

RUTICILLA PHÆNICURA. (Grant, p. 164.)

a. ♂ imm. Harrar, 7th January. No. 44.

b. ♂. Bijo, 17th January. No. 92.

MYRMECOCICHLA MELANURA.

*Myrmecocichla melanura* (Temm.); Seebohm, Cat. B. Brit. Mus. v. p. 360 (1881); Hawker, Ibis, 1899, p. 72; Grant, List of B. Somaliland & Abyssinia, App. to Pease, iii. p. 176, 1902.

a. ♀. Doba, 26th January. No. 149.

SAXICOLA LEUCOMELA. (Grant & Reid, p. 657.)

a-c. ♂ ♀. Harrar, 1st-8th January. Nos. 42, 51, 67.

d. ♂. Bijo, 17th January. No. 93.

SAXICOLA DESERTI. (Grant & Reid, p. 658.)

a. ♀. Hensa, 20th December. No. 18.

[I only met with the Desert-Chat near the Somali coast.—E. D.]

SAXICOLA ISABELLINA. (Grant & Reid, p. 658.)

a. ♂. Dagu Delali, Harrar, 31st December. No. 38.

b. ♂. Harrar, 11th January. No. 71.

c. ♂. Harramaier, 15th January. No. 76.

d. ♂. Billen, 31st January. No. 165.

e. ♀. Duhome, 25th February. No. 209.

f. ♀. Hara, Lake Zwai, 7th March. No. 205.

[The Isabelline Chat was met with not only on the high plateaux, but also on the lower desert-ground near Lake Zwai.—E. D.]

PINAROCHROA SORDIDA. (Grant & Reid, p. 659.)

a. ♀. Adis Ababa, 28th March. No. 284.

[The only example of this Rock-Chat was caught in a rat-trap set in the Legation Gardens at Adis Ababa.—E. D.]

PRATINCOLA MAURA. (Grant & Reid, p. 659.)

a. ♂. Dagu Delali, 31st December. No. 37.

b. ♂. Duhome, 25th February. No. 208.

PRATINCOLA ALBOFASCIATA. (Grant & Reid, p. 660.)

a. ♂. Adis Ababa, 23rd March. No. 281.

*COSSYPHA SEMIRUFA.* (Grant & Reid, p. 660.)

*a, b.* ♂. Harrar, 8th January. Nos. 65, 66.

*c.* ♂. Batadino, 24th June. No. 384.

*d, e.* ♂ ♀. Zegi, Lake Tsana. 15th & 21st May. Nos. 330 & 341.

[I found these birds shy and difficult to approach; they rarely flew, and preferred to make their escape by slipping through the scrub from bush to bush, their presence being made known by their harsh rasping notes. The song is soft and melodious and uttered in a low key.—E. D.]

*THAMNOLEA ALBISCAPULATA.* (Grant & Reid, p. 660.)

*a, b.* ♂ ♀. Jeffi Dunsu, 13th February. Nos. 202, 203.

*c.* ♀. Dedgen, 22nd April. No. 307.

[The Abyssinian White-shouldered Robin, like its ally, was met with on rocky ground.—E. D.]

*THAMNOLEA SEMIRUFA.* (Grant, p. 169.)

*a.* ♀. Adis Ababa, 22nd March. No. 282.

[This extremely shy and cautious species was generally seen in rocky ground.—E. D.]

*ERYTHROPYGIA LEUCOPTERA.* (Grant & Reid, p. 660.)

*a.* ♂. Mirti, 18th January. No. 127.

*ARGYA RUBIGINOSA.* (Grant & Reid, p. 661.)

*a.* ♀. Mirti, 18th January. No. 124.

*CRATEROPUS SMITHI.* (Grant & Reid, p. 662.)

*a.* ♂. Harrar, 11th January. No. 69.

*PYCNONOTUS ARSINOE.* (Grant & Reid, p. 662.)

*a.* ♂. Bijo, 16th January. No. 88.

*b.* ♂. Hara, Lake Zwai, 7th March. No. 233.

*c-c.* ♂ ♀. Serba, Lake Zwai, 8th March. Nos. 239, 240, & 247.

[A very bold and conspicuous bird, met with in pairs throughout the greater part of our journey.—E. D.]

*BATIS ORIENTALIS.* (Grant & Reid, p. 662.)

Of the four specimens before us two with a chestnut band across the breast are marked as males, and two with black bands as females. This determination, if correct, entirely upsets the generally accepted theory that the birds with

black pectoral bands are the males, and those with chestnut bands the females. Other collections recently sent home seem to prove that Mr. Degen's determinations are correct, but the matter is certainly worth further investigation.

*a, b.* [♂ ♀.] Harrar, 3rd January. Nos. 48, 49.

*c.* [♂.] Bijo, 17th January. No. 96.

*d.* [♀.] Seddimulka, 5th February. No. 178.

ALSEONAX MURINUS. (Grant, p. 173.)

*a, b.* ♂ ad. et ♀ juv. Worrumbutchi, 27th June. Nos. 395, 396.

TERPSIPHONE CRISTATA. (Grant & Reid, p. 663.)

All these birds are in the transitional stage, with the back chestnut: three of them have the middle pair of tail-feathers white and the remainder chestnut; in the fourth bird the tail is white with the exception of one of the outer feathers, which is particoloured.

*a.* ♂ imm. Hoorsa, 19th January. No. 112.

*b.* ♂ imm. Billen, 31st January. No. 163.

*c.* ♂ imm. Serba, Lake Zwai, 8th March. No. 238.

*d.* ♂ imm. Addet, 8th May. No. 323.

PLATYSTIRA CYANEA.

*Platystira cyanea* P. L. S. Müll.; Sharpe, Cat. B. Brit. Mus. iv. p. 145 (1879).

As only a single female specimen of *Platystira* was procured, which scarcely differs from a large series of West-African birds, I have for the time being included it with the present species, though I think it quite possible that when males are procured it may prove to represent a distinct form.

This appears to be a very scarce bird, and was not met with by either the Blundell-Lovat or the Pease Expedition. Mr. Degen met with it only twice, frequenting the densely forested shores of Lake Tsana, where it appeared to keep to the higher trees.

*a.* ♀. Zegi, Lake Tsana, 17th May. No. 332.

Iris and feet light slate-coloured; bill black; eye-lappet scarlet.

## COTILE RIPARIA.

- Cotile riparia* (Linn.); Sharpe & Wyatt, Monogr. Hirund.  
i. p. 43, pl. ix. (1887).  
a. No data.

## COTILE MINOR. (Grant &amp; Reid, p. 664.)

a. No data.

## COTILE SHELLEYI.

- Cotile shelleyi* Sharpe; Sharpe & Wyatt, Monogr. Hirund.  
i. p. 65 (1887).  
a. ♂. Billen, 31st January. No. 164.

## COTILE CINCTA.

- Cotile cincta* (Bodd.); Sharpe & Wyatt, Monogr. Hirund.  
i. p. 67 (1887).  
a. ♀. Goubéré, 9th May. No. 324.

## HIRUNDO SMITHI. (Grant &amp; Reid, p. 664.)

a. ♂. Amibarra, 3rd February. No. 174.

## HIRUNDO SENEGALENSIS. (Grant, p. 177.)

- a, b. ♂ ♀. Hara, Lake Zwai, 7th March. Nos. 229,  
230.

## PSALIDOPROCNE ANTINORII. (Grant &amp; Reid, p. 665.)

- a, b. ♀. Adis Ababa, 22nd & 26th March. Nos. 280,  
283.

## MESOPICUS SPODOCEPHALUS. (Grant &amp; Reid, p. 665.)

- a, b. ♂ ♀. Serba, Lake Zwai, 9th March. Nos. 248, 249.  
c. ♂. Worrumbutchi, 27th June. No. 398.

## CAMPOTHERA NUBICA. (Grant &amp; Reid, p. 666.)

- a. ♀. Hara, Lake Zwai, 6th March. No. 225.  
b. ♀. Daira Aila, 24th January. No. 134.

## DENDROPICUS ABYSSINICUS. (Grant, p. 305.)

a. ♂. Abouillet, 22nd June. No. 375.

## DENDROPICUS HEMPRICHI. (Grant &amp; Reid, p. 666.)

a. ♂. Doba. 26th January. No. 148.

## THRIPIAS SCHOENSIS. (Grant &amp; Reid, p. 666.)

a. ♀. Daira Aila, 24th January. No. 135.





LYNX ÆQUATORIALIS. (Grant & Reid, p. 666.)

a. ♀. Addet, 8th May. No. 221.

INDICATOR INDICATOR. (Grant & Reid, p. 667.)

a. ♀. Hara, Lake Zwai, 5th March. No. 222.

MELANOBUCCO ABYSSINICUS. (Grant & Reid, p. 667.)

a. ♀. Miessa, 24th July. No. 437.

b-d. ♂ ♀. Gomar, 17th April. Nos. 296, 298, 299.

e. ♀. Zamea, 18th June. No. 365.

MELANOBUCCO TSANÆ. (Plate VI.)

*Melanobucco tsanæ* Grant, Bull. B. O. C. xiii. no. xciii. p. 29 (1902).

*Adult female*.—Differs from the female of *M. undatus* (Rüpp.) in having the top of the head black to the base of the bill.

In the female and young of *M. undatus* the red on the forehead is always well marked, and there can therefore be no question that Mr. Degen's bird represents a very distinct new species.

Total length ca. 5·5 inches, culmen from feathers on forehead 0·75, wing 3·1, tail 1·75, tarsus 0·75.

a. ♀. Zegi, Lake Tsana, 28th May. No. 353. [*Type of the species.*]

MELANOBUCCO UNDATUS. (Grant, p. 307.)

a. ♂ imm. Balawa, 30th December. No. 33.

b, c. ♀. Hiessa, 20th June. Nos. 369, 370.

d. ♀. Dedgen, 22nd April. No. 305.

MELANOBUCCO ÆQUATORIALIS. (Grant, p. 308.)

a-c. ♂ ♀. Bure, 10th June. Nos. 360-362.

TRICHOLEMA MELANOCEPHALUM. (Grant & Reid, p. 668.)

a. ♂. Owaramulka, 6th February. No. 183.

TRICHOLEMA DIAEMATUM. (Grant & Reid, p. 668.)

a. ♀. Owaramulka, 6th February. No. 185.

BARBATULA XANTHOSTICTA. (Grant, p. 308.)

a, b. ♂ ♀. Dodgit, 26th June. Nos. 390, 391.

TRACHYPHONUS MARGARITATUS. (Grant & Reid, p. 668.)

a. ♂. Balawa, 30th December. No. 36.

b. ♂. Lalliballa, 31st July. No. 449.

TURACUS LEUCOTIS. (Grant & Reid, p. 669.)

a, b. ♂ ♀. Unfras River, 10th May. Nos. 327, 328.

c-c. ♂ ♀. Zegi, Lake Tsana, 17th & 23rd May. Nos. 333, 334, 347.

GYMNOSCHIZORHIS PERSONATA. (Grant & Reid, p. 669.)

a. ♀. Harrar, 12th January. No. 72.

b. ♂. Bogra, 14th March. No. 261.

SCHIZORHIS LEUCOGASTER. (Grant & Reid, p. 669.)

a. ♂. Dabas, 26th December. No. 29.

b, c. ♂ ad. et ♀ head. Bijo, 17th January. No. 102.

CUCULUS SOLITARIUS.

*Cuculus solitarius* Steph.; Shelley, Cat. B. Brit. Mus. xix. p. 258 (1891).

a-c. ♂ ♀. Zegi, Lake Tsana, 21st-29th May. Nos. 342, 349, 350, 354, 355.

CHRYSOCOCCYX KLAASI.

*Chrysococcyx klaasi* Steph.; Shelley, Cat. B. Brit. Mus. xix. p. 283 (1891).

a. ♀. Zegi, Lake Tsana, 28th May. No. 352.

Iris nut-brown; bill and feet grey.

CENTROPUS SUPERCILIOSUS. (Grant & Reid, p. 670.)

a. ♀. Hoorsa, 19th January. No. 118.

CENTROPUS MONACHUS. (Grant, p. 310.)

a. ♀. Yensitcha, 23rd April. No. 311.

COLIUS LEUCOTIS. (Grant & Reid, p. 670.)

a. ♀. Harrar, 1st January. No. 41.

CAPRIMULGUS FOSSII. (Grant & Reid, p. 672.)

a, b. ♂. Billen, 30th & 31st January. Nos. 160, 161.

c, d. ♂ et ♂ juv. Tadejemulka, 8th February. No. 195.

e. ♀. Choba, 16th July. No. 428.

MELITTOPHAGUS SHARPII. (Grant & Reid, p. 672.)

a. ♂. Gulda, 27th December. No. 30.

MELITTOPHAGUS LAFRESNAYI. (Grant & Reid, p. 672.)

a. ♂. Balawa, 30th December. No. 35.

b. ♀. Quala, 13th March. No. 258.

MELITTOPHAGUS PUSILLUS. (Grant, p. 313.)

a, b. ♂ ♀. Zegi, Lake Tsana, 15th May. Nos. 322, 331.

MEROPS APIASTER. (Grant & Reid, p. 673.)

a. ♀. Buggali, 3rd March. No. 215.

MEROPS NUBICUS. (Grant & Reid, p. 673.)

a-c. ♂ ♀. Billen, 31st January. Nos. 168-170.

d. ♀. Hara, Lake Zwai, 5th March. No. 224.

MEROPS ALBICOLLIS.

*Merops albicollis* Vieill.; Sharpe, Cat. B. Brit. Mus. xvii.  
p. 76 (1892).

a. ♀. Tadejemulka, 17th July. No. 430.

b. ♂. Choba, 16th July. No. 427.

UPUPA EPOPS. (Grant & Reid, p. 673.)

a. ♀. Harrar, 8th January. No. 68.

b. ♂. Amibarra, 2nd February. No. 174.

IRRISOR SOMALIENSIS.

*Irrisor somaliensis* Grant, Ibis, 1902, p. 435, pl. x. fig. 2.

a. ♀. Bijo, 17th January. No. 99.

b. ♀. Ashoufi, 28th February. No. 212.

LOPHOCEROS ERYTHORHYNCHUS. (Grant & Reid, p. 675.)

a. ♂. Mt. Asebot, 22nd July. No. 433.

BYCANISTES CRISTATUS. (Grant, p. 316.)

a, b. ♂ ♀. Din, 3rd May. Nos. 318, 319.

[♂. Iris light hazel. ♀. Iris dark hazel.—E. D.]

HAPALODERMA NARINA. (Grant & Reid, p. 676.)

a. ♀. Zegi, Lake Tsana, 29th May. No. 356.

CERYLE RUDIS. (Grant & Reid, p. 676.)

a, b. ♀. Owaramulka, 7th February. Nos. 190, 191.

c, d. ♂ ♀. Akaki R., 30th March. Nos. 285, 286.

CERYLE MAXIMA. (Grant & Reid, p. 677.)

a. ♂. Marmasa, 22nd January. No. 117.

b. . Owaramulka, 7th February. No. 192.

ALCEDO SEMITORQUATA. (Grant & Reid, p. 677.)

a. ♂. Hoorsa, 29th January. No. 103.

b. ♀. Addet, 8th May. No. 323.

CORYTHORNIS CYANOSTIGMA. (Grant & Reid, p. 677.)

a. ♂. Furrasso, 28th January. No. 157.

b. ♂. Owaramulka, 6th February. No. 186.

HALCYON SENEGALENSIS. (Grant & Reid, p. 677.)

a. ♂. Amibarra, 3rd February. No. 175.

HALCYON SEMICÆRULEA. (Grant & Reid, p. 677.)

a. ♂. Lalliballa, 31st July. No. 448.

b. ♂. Miessa, 24th July. No. 434.

HALCYON CHELICUTENSIS. (Grant & Reid, p. 678.)

a. ♀. Doba, 26th January. No. 147.

CORACIAS ABYSSINICUS. (Grant & Reid, p. 678.)

a. ♂. Daira Aila, 24th January. No. 131.

CORACIAS LORTI. (Grant & Reid, p. 679.)

a. Somali-Land. No data.

CORACIAS NÆVIUS. (Grant & Reid, p. 679.)

a. ♀. Harramaier, 15th January. No. 78.

b. ♀. Mirti, 18th January. No. 119.

AGAPORNIS TARANTÆ. (Grant & Reid, p. 680.)

a, b. ♂ ♀. Lake Ailan, 2nd March. No. 213.

ASIO ABYSSINICUS.

*Otus abyssinicus* Guérin, Rev. Zool. 1843, p. 321.

*Asio abyssinicus* Neumann, Bull. B. O. C. xii. no. xc.  
p. 73 (1902).

The female of this extremely rare Abyssinian Owl is a very important addition to the birds in the British Museum. The present example, that recently obtained by Mr. Neumann, and two specimens in the Vienna Museum collected by Heuglin are all that are known to exist in collections.

Like that of the following species, *B. dilloni*, it was procured by Mr. Bern at an elevation of about 8000 feet.

This species must not be confounded with *Bubo abyssinicus* Sharpe (*nec* Guérin) (*cf.* Ibis, 1898, p. 289), which is apparently a rufous phase of *B. cinerascens* (*cf.* Grant, Ibis, 1902, p. 438).

*a.* ♀. Jeffi Dunsu, 13th February. No. 205.

**BUBO DILLONI.**

*Bubo dilloni* Prév. & Des M., Rev. Zool. 1846, p. 242.

*Bubo capensis dilloni*, Neum. Bull. B. O. C. xii. no. xc. p. 74 (1902).

An example of this rare northern form of *B. capensis* was procured at Jeffi Dunsu at an elevation of 8000 feet, and agrees with the two specimens already in the Museum in colour and markings, the barring on the belly and flanks being of the same narrow type.

Mr. Neumann did not meet with this bird. As an instance of the extraordinary luck which some people have, we may mention that this Owl and the specimen of *A. abyssinicus* mentioned above were shot close together on the same day by Mr. Bern, who was at that time travelling with the caravan. He had gone out of camp with the intention of assisting Mr. Degen in procuring any birds that he might come across, and happened to find both these birds at rest on some rocky ledges overhanging a stream.

*a.* ♀. Jeffi Dunsu, 13th February. No. 204.

**GLAUCIDIUM PERLATUM.** (Grant & Reid, p. 680.)

*a.* ♀. Hirabon, 23rd December. No. 21.

**CIRCUS ÆRUGINOSUS.**

*Circus æruginosus* Grant, Ibis, 1901, p. 292.

*a.* ♀. Bijo, 16th January. No. 87.

**MELIERAX POLYZONUS.** (Grant & Reid, p. 682.)

*a.* ♂. Daira Aila, 24th January. No. 130.

**MELIERAX GABAR.** (Grant & Reid, p. 682.)

*a.* ♀. Buggali, 3rd March. No. 217.

## ASTUR UNDULIVENTER.

*Falco unduliventer* Rüpp., Neue Wirb., p. 40, pl. 18. fig. 1 (1835).

*Astur tachiroy* Sharpe, Cat. B. Brit. Mus. i. p. 99 (1874) [part. spec. f].

*Scelopspizias unduliventer* Gurney, Ibis, 1875, p. 362; Salvad. Ann. Mus. Civ. Genov. xxi. p. 70 (1884), xxvi. p. 202 (1888).

*Astur unduliventer* Sharpe, Hand-l. B. i. p. 248 (1899).

The only example of this Goshawk in the British Museum Collection was an adult female from Ankober, Shoa, obtained by Sir W. C. Harris in December 1841. The differences between this species and South-African *A. tachiroy* have already been pointed out (Gurney, Ibis, 1875, p. 362). The young female in spotted plumage procured by Mr. Degen may be at once distinguished from the young of *A. tachiroy* of a similar age by having the thighs light reddish chestnut with faintly indicated darker cross-bars, whereas in the latter species the thighs are always white with wide distinct bars of brown.

The young bird obtained by Mr. Degen is therefore a valuable addition to the Collection.

*Astur castanilius* (Bonap.) [= *Astur macroscelides* Hartl.] from West Africa [cf. Sharpe, Hand-l. B. i. p. 248 (1899)] appears to be indistinguishable from *A. unduliventer*.

a. ♀ imm. Dembretcha, 26th April. No. 314.

ACCIPITER MINULLUS. (Grant & Reid, p. 681.)

a. ♂. Zegi, Lake Tsana, 23rd May. No. 343.

BUTEO AUGUR. (Grant, p. 320.)

a. ♀ ad. (in black plumage). Dodgit, 26th June. No. 394.

b. ♀ imm. Yai-yai, 18th April. No. 302.

c. ♂ ad. Yeddib, 25th April. No. 313.

HALIAËTUS VOCIFER. (Grant & Reid, p. 682.)

a. ad. S. Abyssinia. (No data.)

HELOTARSUS ECAUDATUS.

*Helotarsus ecaudatus* Grant, Ibis, 1901, p. 270.

a. ad. S. Abyssinia. (No data.)

LOPHOAËTUS OCCIPITALIS. (Grant, p. 321.)

a. ad. S. Abyssinia. (No data.)

POLIOHIERAX SEMITORQUATUS. (Grant & Reid, p. 683.)

a. ♀. Bijo, 17th January. No. 91.

CERCHNEIS TINNUNCULUS. (Grant & Reid, p. 683.)

a. ♂. Manda, 19th December. No. 15.

b. ♀. Harramaier, 6th January. No. 60.

c. ♀. Ibad, 6th May. No. 320.

HAGEDASHIA HAGEDASH. (Grant, p. 325.)

a. ♀. Zegi, Lake Tsana, 12th May. No. 329.

[Iris, inner circle dark brown, outer circle pure white; feet above of a vinous colour, below black; cere of the same vinous colour as the feet, remainder of bill black.—E. D.]

BOSTRYCHIA CARUNCULATA.

*Bostrychia carunculata* (Rüpp.); Sharpe, Cat. B. Brit. Mus. xxvi. p. 18 (1898).

None of the collections received from Abyssinia of recent years have contained an example of this rare Wattled Ibis, which is a welcome addition to the Museum series.

a. ♀. Dedgen, 22nd April. No. 309.

[Iris white.—E. D.]

BUBULCUS LUCIDUS. (Grant & Reid, p. 687.)

a, b. ♂ ♀. Zegi, Lake Tsana, 24th May. Nos. 348, 351.

[Iris straw-coloured; feet fleshy pink; bill yellow.—E. D.]

PHYLLOPEZUS AFRICANUS. (Grant & Reid, p. 689.)

a. ♂. Zegi, Lake Tsana, 19th May. No. 340.

HIMANTOPUS HIMANTOPUS. (Grant & Reid, p. 691.)

a, b. ♂ ♀. Harramaier, 6th January. Nos. 61, 62.

OXYECHUS TRICOLLARIS. (Grant & Reid, p. 692.)

a. ♀. Jeffi Dunsu, 10th July. No. 410.

b, c. ♂ ♀. Hambissa, 14th February. Nos. 206, 207.

ÆGIALITIS ALEXANDRINA. (Grant & Reid, p. 692.)

a. ♂. Zaila, 13th December. No. 1.

TRINGOIDES HYPOLEUCUS. (Grant & Reid, p. 692.)

a. ♂. Zaila, 13th December. No. 2.



FULICA CRISTATA. (Grant & Reid, p. 695.)

*a, b.* ♀. Harramaier, 15th January. Nos. 79, 80.

ROUGETIUS ROUGETI. (Grant, p. 331.)

*a.* ♀. Dembretcha, 1st May. No. 317.

PODICIPES CAPENSIS. (Grant & Reid, p. 695.)

*a, b.* ♂ ♀. Harramaier, 16th January. Nos. 84, 85.

PODICIPES NIGRICOLLIS. (Grant, p. 331.)

*a, b.* ♀. Harramaier, 16th January. No. 86.

VINAGO WAALIA. (Grant & Reid, p. 695.)

*a.* Ad. Marmasa, 22nd January. No. 116.

*b.* ♂. Buggali, 3rd March. No. 216.

*c.* ♂. Hara, Lake Zwai, 7th March. No. 236.

COLUMBA GUINEA. (Grant & Reid, p. 696.)

*a.* ♀ juv. Dubra Marcos, 23rd April. No. 312.

TURTUR SENEGALENSIS. (Grant & Reid, p. 696.)

*a.* ♂. Harrar, 1st January. No. 46.

CENA CAPENSIS. (Grant & Reid, p. 696.)

*a.* ♂. Billen, 30th January. No. 159.

*b.* ♀. Amibarra, 2nd February. No. 173.

CHALCOPELIA AFRA. (Grant & Reid, p. 697.)

This specimen belongs to the form with green metallic wing-spots, recognised by Dr. Sharpe as *C. chalcospilus* Bonap. [*cf.* Bull. B. O. C. xii. p. 83 (1902)].

*a.* ♀. Marmasa, 21st January. No. 115.

## XXI.—*On some rare and unfigured Eggs of Palearctic Birds*\*.

By H. E. DRESSER, F.Z.S., M.B.O.U., &c.

(Plate VII.)

IN continuation of my former articles on the eggs of Palearctic birds, I now beg to offer to the members of the B. O. U. some further notes on the same subject with accom-

\* For previous papers on the same subject, see 'Ibis,' 1901, p. 445; 1902, p. 177; 1903, pp. 88, 404; and 1904, p. 106.